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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:
FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Pakistan*: draft resolution

Food and agricultural development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and continued validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990, the Cartagena Commitment, 1/ the New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, contained in its annex to its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 2/ and the various consensus agreements and conventions, especially Agenda 21, 3/ which were adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77.

1/ See A/47/15, vol I.

2/ See "Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990" (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

3/ See "Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992" (A/CONF.151/26), vol. I.

Reaffirming also its resolution 45/207 of 21 December 1990 on food and agricultural problems and Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/32 of 30 July 1992,

Reaffirming further that the right to food is a universal human right that should be guaranteed to all people,

Deeply concerned that hunger and malnutrition have been increasing in many areas, particularly in Africa, since the World Food Conference was held in 1974,

Gravely alarmed that the volume of world food and agricultural production fell in 1991, the first global decline since 1983, and that food stocks declined rapidly,

Noting with concern the negative impact of the stalemate of the Uruguay Round and of current trends of international trade in agricultural products, owing notably to the increasing persistence of trade-distorting agricultural support, on the development of a viable agricultural sector and in improving food security in developing countries,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General 4/ on trends in the international markets for agricultural and tropical products, developments in the liberalization of international trade in agriculture and tropical products, and follow-up to the section on agriculture of the International Development Strategy, as well as the conclusions and recommendations of the World Food Council at its eighteenth session;

2. Affirms that increasing food production and improving access to food by low-income people in developing countries will significantly contribute to the alleviation of poverty and the elimination of malnutrition and to helping raise their standard of living;

3. Calls upon the international community to consider food and agricultural issues in a comprehensive and multidimensional manner;

4. Encourages the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Council, the World Food Programme and other relevant organs of the United Nations system, as well as regional and subregional financial institutions, to improve their cooperation and coordination in the field of food and agricultural development;

5. Urges developed countries to strengthen their efforts to work towards a more equitable international environment, in particular to a fair, open and viable international agricultural trading system that will stimulate

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food production and productivity in developing countries, and in this connection stresses the urgent need for a balanced and successful outcome of the Uruguay Round, which will take into account ways to alleviate the possible negative effect on net food-importing developing countries;

6. Stresses the urgent need for substantial progress in stimulating food and agricultural production and productivity, in order to create a basis for more rapid industrialization and diversification of their economic structure, in particular the agro-industrial sector, thus contributing to their efforts towards sustained economic growth and development;

7. Calls upon the international community to support scientific and technological research and training as well as capacity-building in developing countries in order to promote sustainable agricultural development;

8. Emphasizes the urgency of strengthening international cooperation in the field of transfer of environmentally sound agricultural technology;

9. Requests the United Nations development system to continue its support in providing technical cooperation for the agricultural and rural development;

10. Requests developed countries and the United Nations development system to assist and support technical cooperation among developing countries in the area of food and agricultural development;

11. Stresses the importance of finance for investment in the agricultural sector and urges the international community to take further determined action in support of the efforts of developing countries in this regard;

12. Requests the Secretary General, in consultation with relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to submit to it at its forty-ninth session a report on food production, including agro-industrial products, international markets for agricultural and tropical products and the state of global food security, taking into particular account the needs of all developing countries, including net food-importing countries;

13. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session an item entitled "Food and agricultural development".